## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 1-25 and substitute the following new claims therefor:

26. (New) A method of accessing files on a computer, comprising:

scanning a human body part to obtain information of said human body part that is indicative of at least one characteristic of the human body part;

receiving information indicative of a code known to the user, as an entry into the computer;

based on both said information indicative of said body part, and also on said code, using said computer for obtaining a cryptographic key which is used to enable a cryptographic operation which includes at least one of encryption or decryption of at least one file, on the computer; and

using said cryptographic key to carry out at least one of encryption and/or decryption of at least one file on the computer.

27. (New) A method as in claim 26, wherein said scanning produces information which represents sufficient information about the human body part to render said information unique relative to other scanning of other body parts.

28. (New) A method as in claim 27, wherein said scanning comprises scanning a fingerprint to obtain information indicative of said fingerprint.

29. (New) A method as in claim 28, wherein said forming a cryptographic key comprises identifying a reference on the fingerprint, and using locations of features on the fingerprint relative to said reference to obtain said biometric information.

30. (New) A method as in claim 27, wherein said human body part is scanned to produce digital information that is indicative of an analog image, and further comprising converting aspects of the analog image into digital information indicative of said cryptographic key.

31. (New) A method as in claim 26, wherein said forming a cryptographic key comprises first forming a first part of the cryptographic key using a first portion of the biometric information, subsequently and separately forming another part of the cryptographic key using another portion of the biometric information, and using both said one portion and said another portion of said biometric information together to form said cryptographic key.

32. (New) A method as in claim 27, wherein said forming uses said biometric information to form information that is independent of any absolute dimensions in an image representing said biometric information.

33. (New) A method as in claim 31, wherein said forming comprises obtaining said first part of the cryptographic key from the one portion of the biometric scan, and obtaining said another part of the cryptographic key from said another portion within the

same biometric scan as the first portion, wherein said another portion is a different portion of the image than a first portion of image in which said one portion of the biometric scan is obtained.

34. (New) A method as in claim 31, wherein said forming comprises obtaining said first part of the cryptographic key from the one portion of the biometric scan, and getting said another part of the cryptographic key from said another portion within a different biometric scan from that scan that provides the first portion, wherein said another portion is based on a different image than a first image from which said one portion of the biometric scan is obtained.

35. (New) A method as in claim 34, wherein said different biometric scan is a scan of a different body part than the part that provides said one portion.

36. (New) A method as in claim 26, wherein said biometric scan includes a retinal scan.

37. (New) A system comprising;

a first scanning part that operates to scan a human body part and obtain information indicative of characteristics of said human body part;

a computer, including an input device, receiving information indicative of a code as an entry into the computer and said computer also storing plural files therein,

said computer running a routine that operates based on said information indicative of said body part, and also on said code to obtain a cryptographic key which is used to carry out an a cryptographic operation, including at least one of encryption or decryption of at least one of said files on the computer, and to use said cryptographic key to carry out at least one of encryption and/or decryption of said at least one file on the computer.

38. (New) A system as in claim 37, wherein said scanning produces information indicative of an image which represents sufficient information about the human body part to render said information unique relative to other scanning of other body parts.

39. (New) A system as in claim 38, wherein said first scanning part includes a fingerprint scanner.

40. (New) A system as in claim 38, wherein said routine forms said cryptographic key by identifying a reference on the fingerprint, and using location of features on the fingerprint relative to said reference to obtain said biometric information.

41. (New) A system as in claim 37, wherein said routing forms said cryptographic key by first forming a first part of the cryptographic key using a first portion of the biometric information, subsequently forming another part of the cryptographic key using another portion of the biometric information, and using both

said one portion and said another portion of said biometric information together to form said cryptographic key.

42. (New) A system as in claim 41, wherein said routine forms said first portion and said different portion of the image than a first portion of image in which said one portion of the biometric scan is obtained.

43. (New) A system as in claim 41, wherein said routine forms said first portion and said another portion from different biometric scans, wherein said another portion is based on a different image than a first image from which said one portion of the biometric scan is obtained.

44. (New) A system as in claim 43, wherein a second biometric scan is a scan of a different body part than the part that provides said one portion.

45. (New) A system as in claim 37,wherein said first scanning part includes a retinal scanner.

46. (New) A method, comprising:

scanning a human body part to obtain first information therefrom that uniquely represents the scanned body part;

receiving second information indicative of a code known to the user;

forming third information from one portion of said first information, and forming fourth information from another portion of said first information; and

obtaining a cryptographic key based on all of said second information, said third information, and said fourth information; and

using said cryptographic key to carry out one of an encryption of information or a decryption of information on a computer.

47. (New) A method as in claim 46, wherein said scanning comprises obtaining one of a fingerprint scan or a retinal scan.